

“The Bulletin” February, 2001

President’s Message

We all felt concern and feared that the news was bad as we began our January meeting without Harvey Farrow in attendance. It was so unlike him, not to notify someone or ensure that all the property that is a part of a North York Coin Club meeting was picked up and available for Tuesday evening..

My own phone calls to Harvey’s home the next morning went unanswered, but a call to the police by Secretary Lucille Colson confirmed our worst fears: Harvey Farrow has experienced a fatal heart attack and had passed away, peacefully we are told, the previous Thursday. It took some time to locate relatives, but a death notice finally appeared and nine North York Coin Club members were in attendance for the memorial and committal service. A copy of the notice is reproduced, along with a fine “In Memoriam” by John Regitko on page 3.

Some of the Club’s materials were obtained during a visit to Harvey’s home by myself and Lucille, but there is still much to be done and discussed. A regular meeting of the Club Executive is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14 where we will organize ourselves to carry on.

(Continued on page 2)

Remembering

The next meeting of the North York Coin Club will be held on **Tuesday, February 27, 2001**, at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Drive.

The February meeting is our 41st Anniversary Meeting. Honourary Life member John Regitko, who has been a member of the Club for over 25 years and has been involved with numismatics for over 40 years. He will reminisce about some of the people he has met during his involvement, highlighting their accomplishments both for the hobby as well as for the North York Coin Club.

John will mention names of those that are deceased, those that are retired, as well as those that are still active...whoever has made a contribution to numismatics generally and this Club specifically. One group of people that will be highlighted are Toronto-area coin designers that have been involved with the Club in some way over the years.

He will bring along a display of items that evolve around his presentation, including items that have not been previously exposed to club members because of their uniqueness. Some of the items on display will be donated to the door draw.

We now have the annual financial statement for the year 2000 for the Club. It is distributed to members with this copy of *The Bulletin* and will be discussed and voted on at this meeting. Break time at an Anniversary meeting is also a special time and this year is no exception since we are planning our usual celebration cake. We once again have a listed auction which appears on page 3. It will be a very full meeting so we hope to see you on time as we kick off with our \$18 draw.



*A rare, early photo of
our guest speaker,
caught wearing a tie.*

***Next Meeting:
February 27***

Meeting News from the January 23 Meeting

The 460th meeting of the North York Coin Club was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2001 at the Edithvale Community Centre, 7 Edithvale Dr., Willowdale.

The President, Paul Petch, called the meeting to order at 8:05 and welcomed 23 members and 1 guest.

With considerable concern, it was noted that Harvey Farrow had not arrived. Hence, the On-Time Attendance Draw and the Lucky Draw could not be held nor could the Annual Financial Report be read. However, it was agreed to increase the On-Time Draw as usual. Next month it will be \$18.00.

The minutes of the December 14, 2000 meeting were read by the Secretary and approved by the Chair.

The Chair discussed the highlights of the Annual Financial Report, which showed a very good year, and stated he would include copies in the next bulletin. He also mentioned a number of members had attended the "Photographic Numismatics" programme at the North York Civic Centre

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

This is the month we normally send out our "last call" for renewals. We are not yet organized for that this year, so in the meantime, if you have not yet paid your 2001 dues, please do so by mail or at the next meeting.

The President continues to collect the e-mail addresses of all members. If you are now on the Internet, send an e-mail and let him know at **p.petch@home.com**. Phone calls are welcome at **416-745-3067** (leave a voice message if you can't get through) or at the cell number **416-303-4417**.

on January 17th and found it very interesting. Rick Craig said he found an example of this branch of topical collecting e-Bay and sent it to the speaker, Nicholas M. Graver, as a small thanks. Jim Heifetz thanked Paul for sending out an early bulletin announcing the meeting.

Roger Fox came to the floor asking for information regarding a medal attached to an orange ribbon imprinted with LOL. Norman G. Gordon thought it had to do with the Orange Lodge. Roger also had a 1993 US 1-cent with a heart punched out of the centre and attached to card on which a poem was printed. Roger read the poem aloud.

Following up on a Bulletin article and the November Question of the Month, Dr. Marvin Kay brought along a supply of US quarters honouring some of the American states and allowed members to buy them for 50 cents.

Mark Argentino passed around a brochure on the new \$10 bill and we had a few specimens at the meeting.

Bob Wilson contacted the Mint regarding the 2000 plated coins and was advised only 2000 "P" nickels are to be available in the plated format. Mark stated a quantity of them have arrived in Calgary.

The feature for the evening was a very entertaining 45 minute BBC video "The Money Man". Mr. Boggs is an artist who draws and engraves his own money and then tries to use the artistic creation and collectible value of it as currency. His trials and tribulations were hilarious particularly when dealing with the US Treasury Department.

Bob Porter ably ran a special auction of 17 lots with the assistance of Paul Petch. Marvin Kay graciously offered to record the proceedings. Profits will be reported and money distributed next month.

Coming Events

TOREX Show & Auction, February 24/25 at the Primrose Hotel, 111 Carlton St. (Pearson Ballroom). Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm. Daily admission \$5. Contact Brian R. Smith, (416) 861-9523, e-mail: brian@torex.net, website: www.torex.net.

Cambridge Coin Club 10th Annual Coin Show, March 24, 9am-4pm at the Cambridge Newfoundland Club, 1500 Dunbar Rd. Over 40 tables of coins, tokens, paper money, trade dollars, militaria, sports cards, postcards, CTC coupons. Free admission. Contact Vincent Nevidon, (519) 622-6625

Hamilton Spring Coin Show, April 7, 9:30am-4pm at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 58, 1180 Barton St. E. across from the Centre Mall. Features include more tables. Contact: Ken Lord (905) 383-3742.

Kent Coin Club Annual Coin Show, April 8, 10am-4pm at the Wheel's Inn, 615 Richmond St. Chatham. Events include 25 tables, display competition, hourly draws and raffle, free admission and parking. Contact Lou Wagenaar (519) 352-4150.

ONA 39th Annual Convention, April 27-29 at the Ramada Inn (formerly College Inn), Guelph. Featuring a Friday evening bourse, Saturday group meetings, auction and Banquet and Sunday show. Reserve your weekend!

Burlington Spring Coin Show, May 5, 9am-4pm at the Brant Hills Community Centre, 2300 Duncaster Dr. Contact Nancy Meredith (705) 788-3159.

Peterborough Coin Club Annual Show, May 5, 9am-5pm at Portage Place. Events include free admission, coin exhibits and displays. Contact Colin Caldwell, (705) 742-0114.

Harvey Farrow — In Memoriam

Harvey Farrow, one of the North York Coin Club's staunches members, passed away suddenly at his home on January 18, 2001. A memorial service was held on February 15. His "home" Club was represented by President Paul Petch and 8 other members at the service.

Harvey was predeceased by his parents Godfrey and Hazel Farrow and was only 6 months old when his father passed away.

In his 63rd year, he received his education at Variety Village where he also learned to cope with his physical abilities that were the result of a birth defect. His determination to succeed at whatever he chose to do was evident, even in his childhood, because one of his "hobbies" was going for long walks around Toronto. He could be seen most weekends walking along Danforth Avenue to take in the sights of Greektown, or to attend some event being held in the Canadian National Exhibition grounds.

Following his education at Variety Village, he obtained employment at Remington Rand where he was responsible for accounts receivables and credit & collection. After more than 20 years, he joined All-Comp Supplies & Services Ltd., founded by North York Coin Club member John Regitko. He and John continued their 20 year association begun at Remington Rand with another 20 years in John's business where Harvey was responsible for all of the Company's accounting functions, including invoicing, accounts receivable, accounts payable, inventory control, banking and financial record keeping.

An avid hockey fan and season ticket holder, he could be found every Saturday evening cheering for his favorite team, the Toronto Maple Leafs. He could also be found at a number of local area coin clubs, including the North York, Oshawa, Thistletown and Scarborough Coin Clubs, as well as Markham Village, Huronia and Rich-

Religious/In Memoriam

FARROW, Harvey Ross _ Suddenly, at his home, in Toronto, on Thursday, January 18, 2001, in his 63rd year. Predeceased by his parents Godfrey and Hazel Farrow. Harvey was past President of the North York Coin Club. He will be remembered by his extended family and friends.

A Service of Remembrance will be held on Thursday, February 15, at 6p.m. at First United Church, 151 Lakeshore Rd. W., Port Credit (3 blocks W. of Hurontario St.) Cremation has taken place.

For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to Variety Village - The Children's' Charity (Ontario), 37 King St. E., Ste. 300, Toronto, M5C 1E9

The Toronto Star

mond Hill Coin Clubs when they were in operation. He could be found at every ONA Convention since the ONA's very beginning, as well as at virtually all CNA Conventions regardless where across Canada they were held.

He received his start in numismatics when his mother and her best friend, Louise Graham, introduced him to the fun and fellowship of the Toronto Coin Club. As Mrs. Graham went on to become the President of the Toronto Coin Club, the North York Coin Club and the Canadian Numismatic Association, Harvey also became involved with the organizational aspect of the hobby in a big way, agreeing early on to become Treasurer of the Toronto Coin Club and moving on to other positions. His history with the North York Coin Club has been long and extensive. At the time of his death, he was North York's Treas-

urer, a position he had held for over 25 years. He also served the club as President, Receptionist, and Social Convener. He represented the Club as its delegate at numerous annual ONA and CNA Conventions.

Just prior to his passing, he agreed to take over as Treasurer of the Mississauga-Etobicoke Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Club.

As John Regitko stated at the memorial service: "Harvey was determined to do the best possible in whatever he was involved with, be it in business or in his hobby. He was as dependable and accurate as anyone else I have ever known."

*The Club extends its thanks to
John Regitko
for preparing this memoriam.*

Listed Auctions

Bring any material you would like to sell by listed auction in March to the next meeting and give it to Rick Craig. The items should be presented for consideration in person in an ordinary envelope showing your name, phone number and your estimated value (i.e., reserve bid). Rick is assisting us by assuring consistent descriptions of quality and by pegging fair starting amounts for the listing in the bulletin.

If you participated in the January auction, we would like to collect money owing and pay out to the sellers either before the meeting or during the break.

February Meeting Auction List

	Starts at
1) 1978 Book published for the 100th Anniversary of the C.N.E. Card covers / 141 pages / new condition	\$18.00
2) 4 pieces of commercial paper: Standard Bank blank cheque / Ford Motor Receiving Tag/ Railway Express packing label / Camel Cigarettes Cash coupon 1998	4.00
3) 1968 Canada P/L set Donation to club by Mark Argentino.....	2.00
4) 1998 Somaliland 5 Dollar coin featuring a Titanic Sinking theme.....	7.00
5) 6 Canadian Trade Dollars, mostly East Coast locations	6.00
6) Token good for 1 pack of cigarettes	1.00
7) Chatham Islands, NZ, \$5 polymer note 1999. Nice Millennium Souvenir....	5.00
8) Bulgarian note (1950's) for 25 Leva25

When the lights dimmed on the Empire by Alan Freeman, London

She epitomized an era and helped build an empire. But the centenary of Queen Victoria's death has passed with surprisingly little fanfare in the nation that was transformed in her 63-year reign. One hundred years ago on January 21, Victoria died at her home on the Isle of Wight, ending a remarkable period that saw Great Britain rise to the peak of its industrial and imperial power.

The present Queen Victoria's great-great-granddaughter marked the occasion by attending a service of remembrance at a church near Sandringham. There will be no public events to commemorate the centenary today aside from a wreath-laying at a statue of Victoria near Buckingham Palace. The event is organized by the Victorian Society, which is dedicated to preservation of Victorian architecture and culture.

"Buckingham Palace is oddly reticent about all of this," said Chris Brooks, chairman of the Victorian Society and a historian at the University of Exeter. He said the palace is "missing the boat" by failing to take much notice of the anniversary.

Although she was 81, Victoria's death was a shock to her subjects in Britain and all over the Empire. She was the only monarch most people had ever known. When she ascended the throne in 1837 at the age of 18, succeeding her uncle William IV, royalty was in disrepute and republicanism was on the rise, Mr. Brooks said. "George IV and his brothers had been completely scandalous: wastrels, drunkards and libertines."

But Victoria's happy marriage to Prince Albert and the emphasis on the family and domesticity helped rebuild the throne's image. "It certainly changed people's perception of the throne, and it acted as a model of the Victorian values of the family" Mr. Brooks said.

In Canada, Victoria's death was greeted with sorrow and consternation, according to Carman Miller, a Canadian historian at McGill University. "There were great dark headlines in the newspapers," he said. "She was tremendously popular, particularly in the last decade of her life. I sometimes think that in this period of rapid change, the longevity of her reign represented a symbol of stability

in society." Memorial services were held across the country, including one in Quebec City attended by the entire Quebec provincial cabinet. Canadians were proud of the fact that two months before her death she had reviewed the Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry, who had just returned from serving in the Boer War in South Africa. It is believed to have been her last public act.

Victoria's final days were an international media event. As the bulletins began to be issued from Osborne House that she was ill, more and more crowds gathered around the places where bulletins were announced. She died at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 21, 1901. Within an hour, the Prince of Wales, who became Edward VII, sent a telegram to the Lord Mayor of London, who in turn read it out to the crowds. The great bell of St. Paul's Cathedral began to toll.

Victoria's body lay in state for 10 days before being taken to London, where one million people saw it transported through the centre of the city. The funeral was held at Windsor Castle on Feb. 2. She was buried two days later beside her beloved Albert at the Frogmore Mausoleum, a masterpiece of Victorian architecture, will be opened to the public Feb. 4 to mark the centenary, one of the few events to mark the occasion.

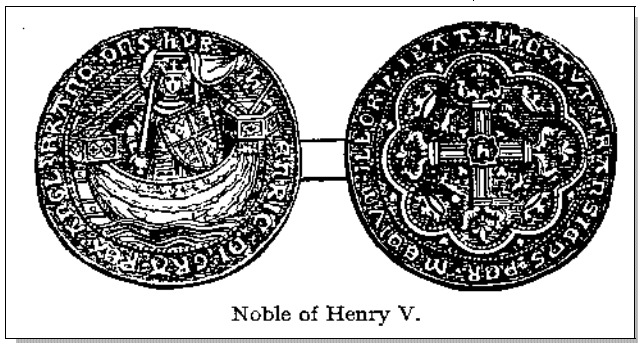
Question of the Month

For the February Question of the Month we're going to centre on the fact that our meeting falls on Shrove Tuesday. If I asked if there is any particular recipe that is connected with the day, most people would guess pancakes. But what if I asked if there was any particular numismatic item connected with the day? What would your answer be?

Last month we asked what adjective originally referred directly to and was the name of a coin? Club members went a bit British on us with Vince Chiappino answer of "Noble" and Brian See's suggestion "Sovereign". These are both very good answers.

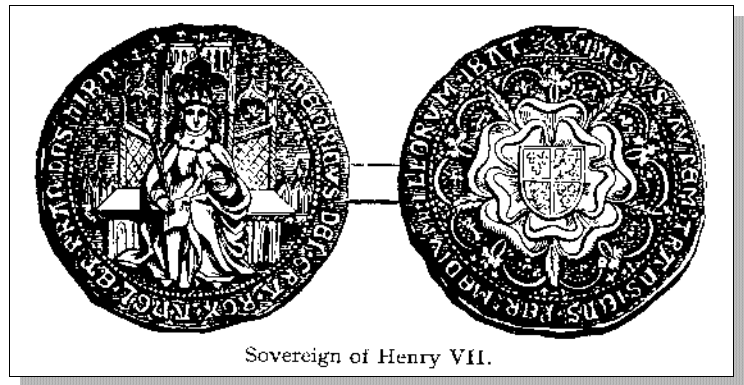
The Noble (or excellent coin, possibly so called from the fineness of the gold) was the second gold coin of Edward III, struck 1344, superseding the florin. The obverse shows the king, standing in a ship, and bearing a sword and shield. The type indicates symbolically the growing power of England on the seas, and probably commemorates the great victory over the French off Sluys, in 1340.

On the reverse is the same strange motto as on the florin: IHS TRANSIENS PER MEDIUM ILLORVM IBAT ("But Jesus, passing through the midst of them, went his way"), which may have been intended as a charm against thieves. The coin was rated at the value of half a mark (6s. 8d.), which, up until recent times was a lawyer's fee. The noble was struck by succeeding monarchs, namely Richard II, Henry IV, V and VI and Edward IV.



Noble of Henry V.

The Sovereign or Pound Sovereign was so called from the representation of the monarch sitting on a throne. Originally a fine large gold coin, in fact larger than any English coin previously produced, first struck just after 1489 by Henry VII. It was intended as a double *rose noble* or double *ryal*, i.e., a twenty-shilling piece. Hitherto the pound had been merely money of account. The coin was of standard gold and bore on the reverse a large double Tudor rose charged with the English shield. Under Edward VI (period 1550-53), Mary and Elizabeth, the sovereign became a thirty-shilling piece. Under James I the *unite* took the place of the sovereign. Our modern type of sovereign, a smaller and more insignificant piece, was first struck by George III in 1817. It bore the device of St. George slaying the dragon. After 1917 no sovereigns were issued for internal currency in Britain.



Sovereign of Henry VII.

The word your editor had in mind was "picayune," (PICK-uh-yoon) which will be found in any modern English dictionary. Its English meaning is "little," "worthless," "mean," or "cheap." Originally it was of French origin, referring to an old, small French copper coin called a "picaillon." Picaillon may in turn derive from an Old Provençal word, *picar*, meaning "to jingle or clink."

The Creoles of early Louisiana and New Orleans, being of French descent (many of them were Acadians from what later became Nova Scotia), used the term, but corrupted it to picayune.

At the time, the coins of Spain were substituted for the scarcer English coins, in particular the Spanish "piece-of-eight. If a transaction was less than the value of a coin, it was sometimes cut in half. Halves could be cut into quarters and quarters could be cut into bits. The bit worth \$.125 cents on a "dollar" coin could also be cut in half. This created a 6¼ part which came to be known as a "picaillon. The word "picayune" comes from this small fractional coin for something trivial.

Later, when this territory became part of the United States, the small silver United States half dimes were also called picayunes. Today this word is accepted as a good English adjective and almost never is used as a noun referring to a coin.

By 1892, "picayune" was well established as an English word for something of similarly scant value or characterized by pettiness. That year, for example, a Boston Journal writer asked:

"Do you want another picayune Congress with all its stupidity and folly?"

Canada's New \$10 note

Ottawa, Jan. 17 /CNW/ - The Bank of Canada launched the first in a new series of bank notes today. The themes of the notes in the new series, entitled Canadian Journey, reflect Canadians' views of their culture, history, and achievements, said Gordon Thiessen, Governor of the Bank of Canada.

The back of the redesigned \$10 note features the theme of Remembrance and Peacekeeping. It represents Canada's participation in peacekeeping activities as well as the remembrance of all Canadians who participated in past wars. A picture of Sir John A. Macdonald remains on the face of the new note. Mr. Thiessen said, "I am extremely proud of our newest bank note series, which is distinguished by new anti-counterfeiting features and a unique durable tactile feature to assist the blind and vision-impaired. Raising public awareness of our currency is an important preventive measure against counterfeiting."

The new notes will contain many new sophisticated security features designed to thwart counterfeiters. Since the current note series was introduced in 1986, significant technological advances in bank note production have made it possible to incorporate better security features into paper currency. This comes at a time when affordable high-resolution colour copiers, inkjet printers, and computer scanners have increased the potential for counterfeiting.

The images on the backs of the notes are changing but the Queen and prime ministers who are featured on the face of the current notes will remain, with new portraits. The notes will be the same size, and the existing dominant colours on each denomination will be maintained.



The new themes were chosen after consultation with thousands of Canadians who expressed their views about Canada's significant achievements and

aspirations. The new note titles and the subject matter that will appear on the backs are:

\$5 Children at Play, children playing hockey outdoors (Sir Wilfrid Laurier)

\$20 Arts and Culture, the artwork of



renowned Canadian artist Bill Reid (Queen Elizabeth II)

\$50 Nation Building, the accomplishments of the Famous Five and Therese Casgrain (William Lyon Mackenzie King)

\$100 Exploring and Innovating, historic and satellite maps of Canada (Sir Robert Borden)

The current notes will remain legal tender even after the new notes are introduced.

Military Honoured On New-Look \$10 Bill by Shawn Mccarthy, Ottawa

Canadians will soon be carrying a busy and colourful memorial to the country's military history in their wallets. The Bank of Canada yesterday unveiled its new \$10 note, dropping the fierce-looking osprey on the back of the bill for a collage of Canadian military and peacekeeping images.

The \$10 bill is still the distinctive purple, allowing Americans to continue to derive it as Monopoly money, but it is more European-looking in the busyness of its design. The central bank - which contracts the manufacturing of money to two bank-note companies - redesigns its bills every 10 years to keep ahead of counterfeiters.

Bank officials market-tested their plans for the new bills extensively. Focus groups rejected such famous Canadian figures as Terry Fox (an "overdone" image); the Group of Seven ("too cliché") and former prime minister Lester Pearson (too partisan). The kingfisher, the osprey, the loon and the Canada goose that have long graced the back of the bills

will be replaced.

The note features a female peacekeeper with field glasses, a veteran and his family at a cenotaph on Remembrance Day, poppies and the inscription *Lest We Forget*, doves of peace, and even a microscopic reproduction of the first verse of the 1915 John McCrae poem *In Flanders Fields*, in both official languages. For those of you who get out your glasses to read the words to the poem, they are correct. It seems many thought that the poem begins, "In Flanders Fields where poppies grow", but in fact that last word should be "blow", just as the bill shows it.